

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-62 are pending in the application. Claims 6, 15-16, 20, 26, 30-34, 37, 39-41, 46-47, 49-50, 53 and 56-58 are cancelled.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A cartridge locking device for releasably securing a filter in a plenum of a filtering assembly, comprising:

an actuating member extending through an opening in a wall of the plenum, the actuating member being movable from a first locked position to a second unlocked position; and

a lever member connected to the actuating member inwardly of the plenum, the lever member having a distal end that pivots into a bearing position for support the filter within the plenum when the actuating member moves to its locked position, and the distal end of the lever member pivoting into a spaced apart position from the filter when the actuating member moves to its unlocked position.

2. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 1, wherein:

the lever member defines an elongated bar that is connected to the actuating member at a first end of the lever member; and

the cartridge locking device further comprises a resilient member disposed between the plenum and the first end of the lever member to bias the first end of the lever member away from the wall of the plenum.

3. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim [[2]] 1, wherein:

the lever member is connected to the actuating member at a first end of the lever member;

the lever member also moves from a radially aligned position to a radially non-aligned position relative to the filter when the actuating member is in its unlocked position; and

the lever member further comprises a pivot point intermediate the first and distal ends on an inner portion of the plenum about which the lever member moves to bear the distal end against the filter when the actuating member is in its locked position.

4. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim [[3]] 1, wherein:

the lever member is connected to the actuating member at a first end of the lever member;

the lever member also moves from a radially aligned position to a radially non-aligned position relative to the filter when the actuating member is in its unlocked position; and

the cartridge locking device further comprises a locking member received on the actuating member outwardly of the plenum for selectively securing the position of the actuating member.

5. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 4, further comprising:

a fastener that connects the lever member and the first end of the actuating member.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim [[1]] 4, wherein:

the locking member is threadedly received on the actuating member; and

the locking member moves the actuating member between its locked and unlocked positions by rotation of the locking member relative to the actuating member.

8. (Currently Amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 4, wherein the locking member being in its un-locked position, movement of the actuating member from its radially aligned position to its radially non-aligned position causes the distal end of the lever member to move away from the filter.

9. (Currently Amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 4, wherein the actuating member being in its radially aligned position, the lever arm moves between a spaced apart position and a bearing position relative to the filter upon moving the locking member between its un-locked position and its locked position.

10. (Currently Amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 7, wherein the locking member being in its un-locked position, movement of the actuating member from its radially aligned position to its radially non-aligned position causes the distal end of the lever member to move away from the filter.

11. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 7, wherein the actuating member being in its radially aligned position, the lever arm moves between a spaced apart position and a bearing position relative to the filter upon moving the locking member between its un-locked position and its locked position.

12. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 1, wherein the lever member comprises an elongated bar having an opening in the first end that receives the actuating member.

13. (Original) The cartridge locking device in claim 12 wherein a portion of the actuating member is threaded.

14. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 5, wherein the fastener defines at least one nut that threadedly connects to the actuating member to connect the lever member and the actuating member.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim [[1]] 2, wherein the resilient member is a spring.

18. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim [[1]] 4, wherein:
the filter has a bearing surface; and

the actuating member being in both its locked position and its radially aligned position, the distal end of the lever member bears against the bearing surface on the filter.

19. (Original) The cartridge locking device in claim 18 wherein the bearing surface is a palm button.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) A cartridge locking device for holding a filter assembly in a plenum for a filtering apparatus, comprising:

an actuating member extending through an opening in a wall of a the plenum and movable between a first locked position and a second unlocked position;

a lever member connected to the actuating member inwardly of the plenum and having a distal end for bearing against the filter assembly within the plenum, the lever member in response to movement of the actuating member being movable in a first plane between a first bearing position and a second spaced-apart position relative to the filter assembly and in a second plane between a first radially aligned position and a second radially non-aligned position relative to the filter assembly ;

a resilient member for biasing a first end of the lever member away from the wall of the plenum; and

a pivot on an inner portion of the plenum on which the lever member moves when the lever member is in the first position relative to the filter assembly;

whereby movement of the actuating member between the first locked and second unlocked positions moves the lever member between the first bearing and second spaced-apart positions relative to the filter assembly.

22. (Original) The cartridge locking device in claim 21 wherein the resilient member is a spring.

23. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 21, further comprising:

a locking member received on the actuating member outwardly of the plenum for securing the pivot member in position.

24. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 23, wherein the locking member being in its un-locked position, the lever member moves between its radially aligned position and its radially non-aligned position relative to the filter assembly upon moving the actuating member radially.

25. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 23, wherein the actuating member being in its unlocked position, the lever member moves between its spaced-apart position and its bearing position relative to the filter assembly upon moving the locking member between an un-locked position and a locked position.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 21, wherein the lever member comprises an elongated bar having an opening in the first end that receives the actuating member.

28. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 21, further comprising a fastener that engages the actuating member to connect the lever member and the actuating member.

29. (Original) The cartridge locking device in claim 28 wherein the fastener is a threaded nut.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 21, wherein the actuating member is L-shaped.

36. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 30, further comprising:
a threaded locking member received on the actuating member outwardly of the plenum for securing the actuating member position, said locking member movable between an un-locked position and a locked position.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim [[23]] 36, wherein the locking member comprises at least one handle portion and a threaded bore for receiving the actuating member.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Canceled)

41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim [[41]]25, wherein the filter assembly has a bearing surface defining a palm button that comprises:

a bearing face on a first side of the palm button; and

an annular flange extending from a second opposing side of the palm button and defining a threaded recess;

whereby the threaded recess receives a shaft to secure the bearing member to the filter.

43. (Currently amended) A cartridge locking device for holding a filter in a plenum of a filtering , comprising:

an actuator member extending through an opening defined by a wall in the plenum and movable between a locking position and an unlocking position;

a lever member connected to the actuator member inwardly of the plenum having a distal end for supporting the filter within the plenum, the lever member movable in a first plane between a bearing position and a spaced-apart position relative to the filter and also in a second plane between an alignment position and an un-alignment position relative to the filter, the lever member having a first end opposite the distal end, and an intermediate pivot point that pivots within the plenum;

a locking member received on the actuator member for selectively securing the actuator member in its respective locking and unlocking positions, said locking member being movable between a locked position and an un-locked position; and

a resilient member that biases a first end of the lever member away from the wall of the plenum;

whereby with the locking member being in the un-locked position, the lever member moves between alignment and un-alignment positions upon moving the actuator member between its locking and unlocking positions for replacement of the filter within the plenum; and

whereby the actuator member being in its aligned position, the lever member moves between bearing and spaced-apart positions relative to the filter upon moving the locking member between the locked and un-locked positions for holding the filter in the plenum.

44. (Original) The cartridge locking device in claim 43, wherein the resilient member is a spring.

45. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 43, wherein:

the lever member comprises an elongated bar that is connected to the actuating member at a first end of the lever member .

46. (Canceled)

47. (Canceled)

48. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 46, wherein the locking member comprises a handle having a bore that threadedly receives the actuating member outwardly of the plenum.

49. (Canceled)

50. (Canceled)

51. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim [[46]] 48, wherein rotational movement of the locking member about the actuator causes the locking member to move the actuator member, thereby actuating movement of the connected lever member.

52. (Original) The cartridge locking device in claim 51 wherein the locking member further comprises a pair of arms for grippingly moving the locking member.

53. (Canceled)

54. (Currently amended) The cartridge locking device of claim 43, wherein the plenum supports a filter therein and the filter has a bearing surface whereby the lever member bears against the bearing surface on the filter when the lever member is in both its bearing and alignment positions.

55. (Original) The cartridge locking device in claim 54 wherein the bearing surface is a palm button connected to the filter.

56. (Canceled)

57. (Canceled)

58. (Canceled)

59. (Currently amended) A method of operating a cartridge locking device to hold a filter in a filter plenum and release the filter during replacement operations, comprising the steps of :

(a) connecting an actuating member to a lever member proximate to a first end of the lever member and inwardly of the plenum, the lever member also having an intermediate pivot point and a distal end;

(b) radially moving the actuating member from a first radial position to a second radial position, thereby causing the distal end of the lever member to move from a radially unaligned position relative to the filter to a radially aligned position; and

(c) moving the actuating member from a first linear position to a second linear position, thereby causing the distal end of the lever member to pivot from an unlocked position spaced apart from the filter to a locked position securing the filter in the plenum.

60. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 59, further comprising the step of:

(d) moving the locking member from its locked position to its unlocked position, thereby causing the distal end of the lever member to move from its locked position to its unlocked position.

61. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 60, further comprising the step of:

(e) radially moving the actuating member from its second radial position to its first radial position, thereby causing the distal end of the lever member to move from its radially aligned position relative to the filter to its radially unaligned position.

62. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 60, further comprising the steps of:

(f) removing a door from the wall of the plenum; and

(g) removing the filter from the plenum.